SUPERIOR
IRON MAN®
Fe
MARVEL
009
TAYLOR
CINAR
GURU-eFX

BE BEAUTIFUL • BE INTELLIGENT • BE HEALTHY • BE IMMORTAL

BE SUPERIOR

Tony Stark is a technological visionary...a famous, wealthy and unparalleled inventor. With the world's most advanced and powerful suit of armor, Stark has valiantly protected the innocent as the golden Avenger known as IRON MAN.

A recent battle with a mentally powered villain has altered Stark's mind. With a more arrogant and aggressive personality surfacing, Stark used San Francisco to beta-test his newest invention: the EXTREMIS 3.0 App. It can improve people's lives, making them more attractive, smarter, and healthier...but at a **cost**.

As Tony's behavior became increasingly erratic and immoral, Pepper Potts activated a fail-safe that Tony himself made eight years prior: a full backup copy of Tony's mind. Operating from within empty armor, the copy was intended to fix Tony—but it soon deduced that Tony's moral compass was gone, and replicated itself into multiple Stark suits, bent on erasing the warped Stark altogether. Pepper also managed stop Tony from buying his own media empire by purchasing it out from under his nose.

Meanwhile, Extremis users learned the true cost of their new favorite product, as Tony used the technology to control their minds and use them as human shields against his armored copies. But before he could be stopped, Stark used his armor to transform into a bigger, badder, Superior Iron Man...

CHAPTER 9: FREEDOM

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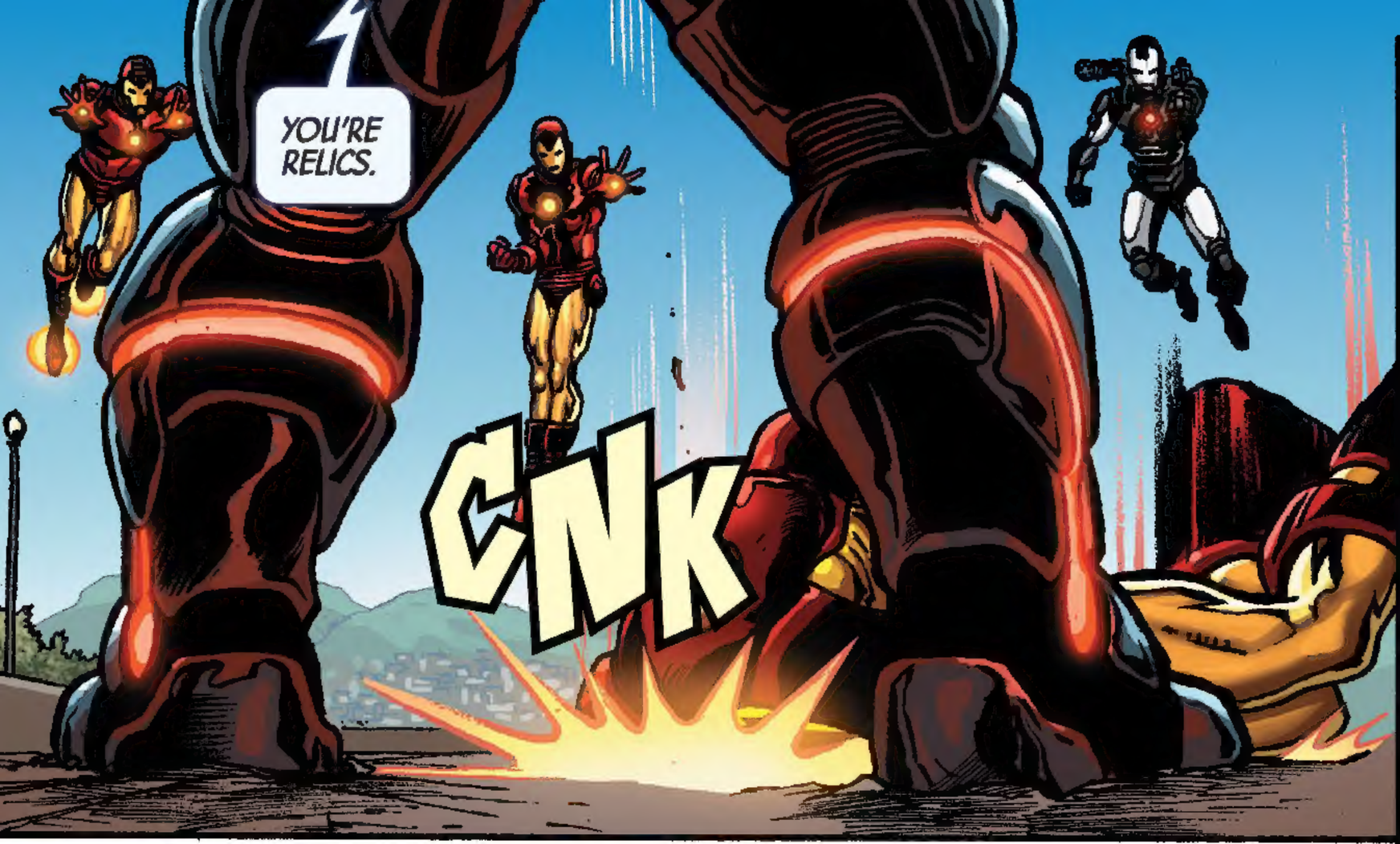
HERE'S THE THING.

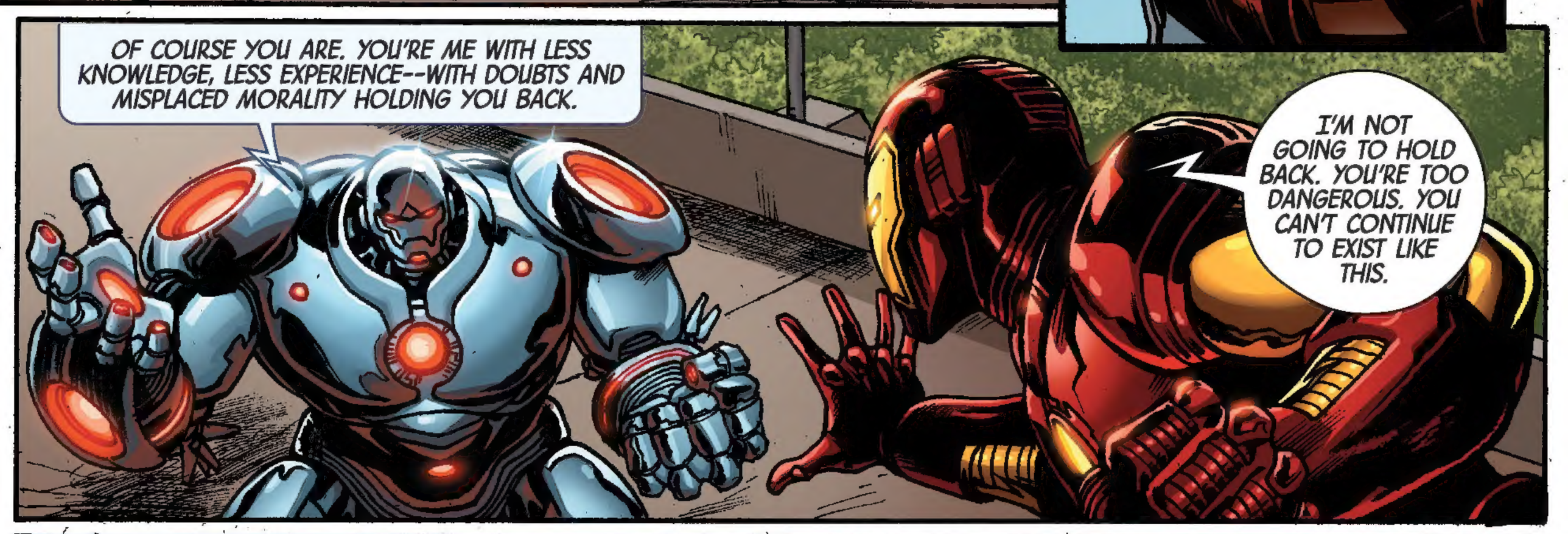
I MADE YOU.

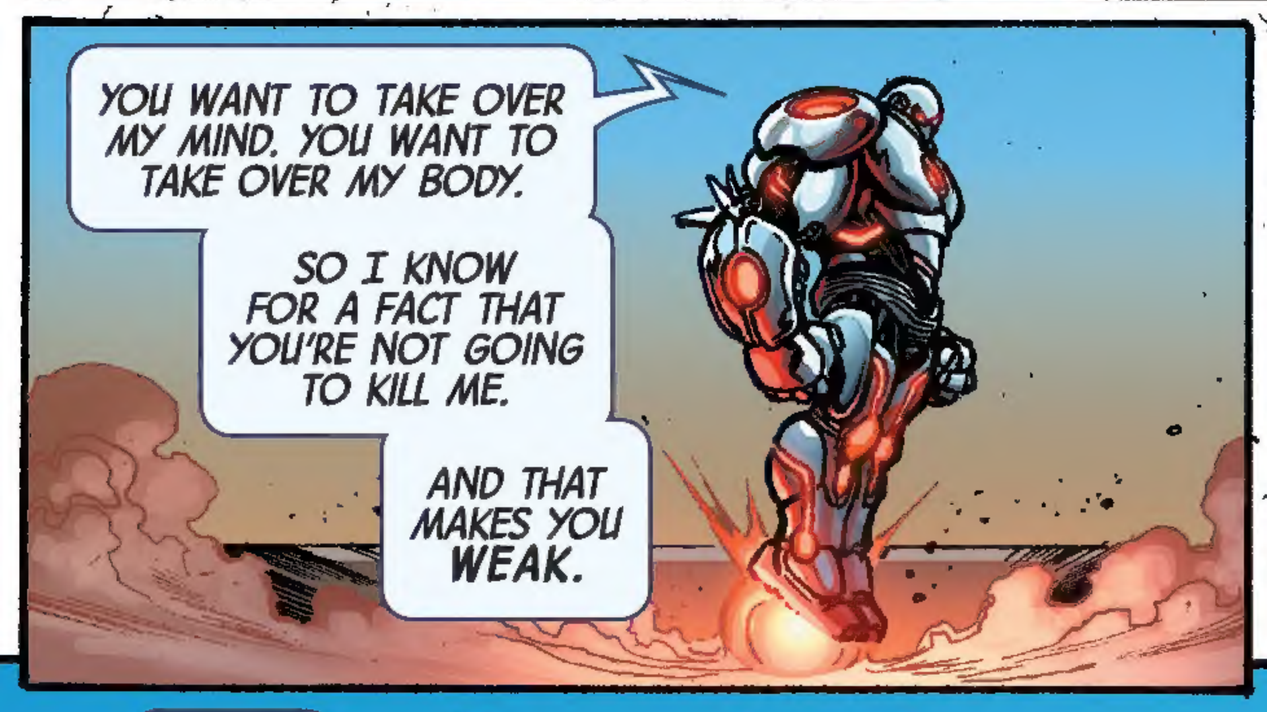
ALL OF YOU.

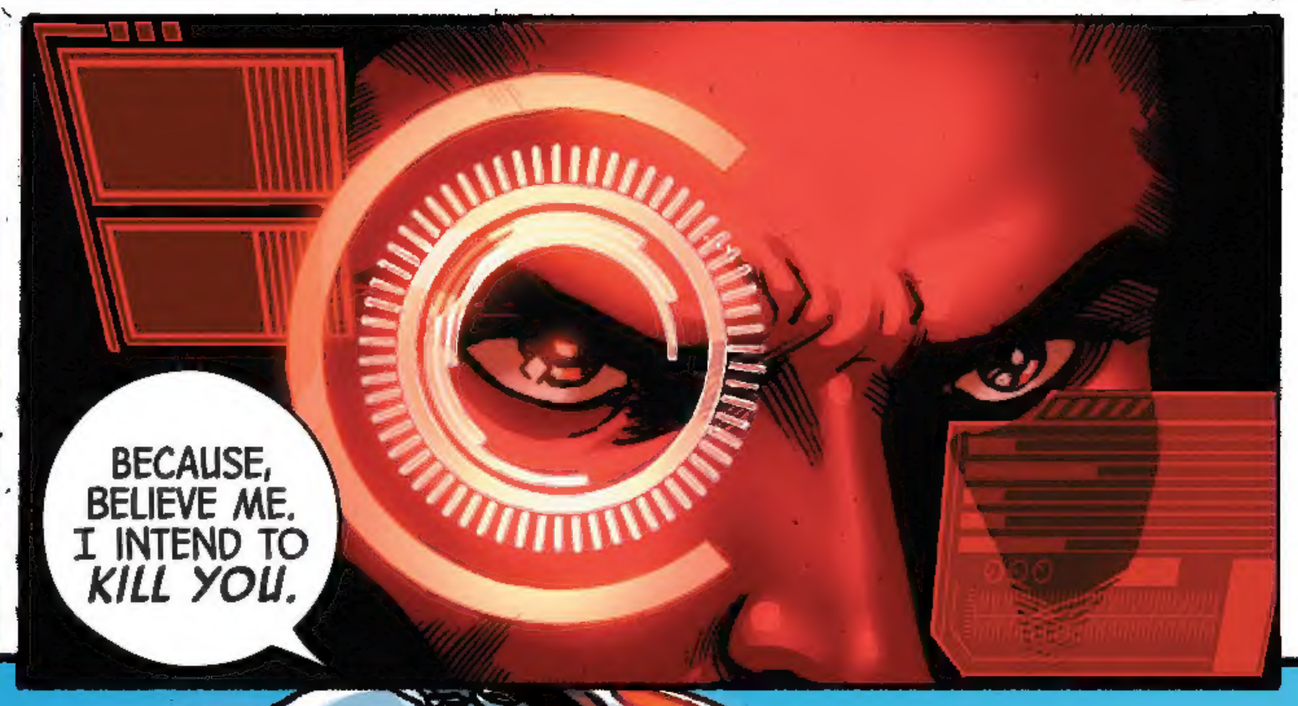
AND I CAN TELL YOU:
EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU IS INFERIOR.


YOU'RE RELICS.
CNK

I'M NO RELIC.

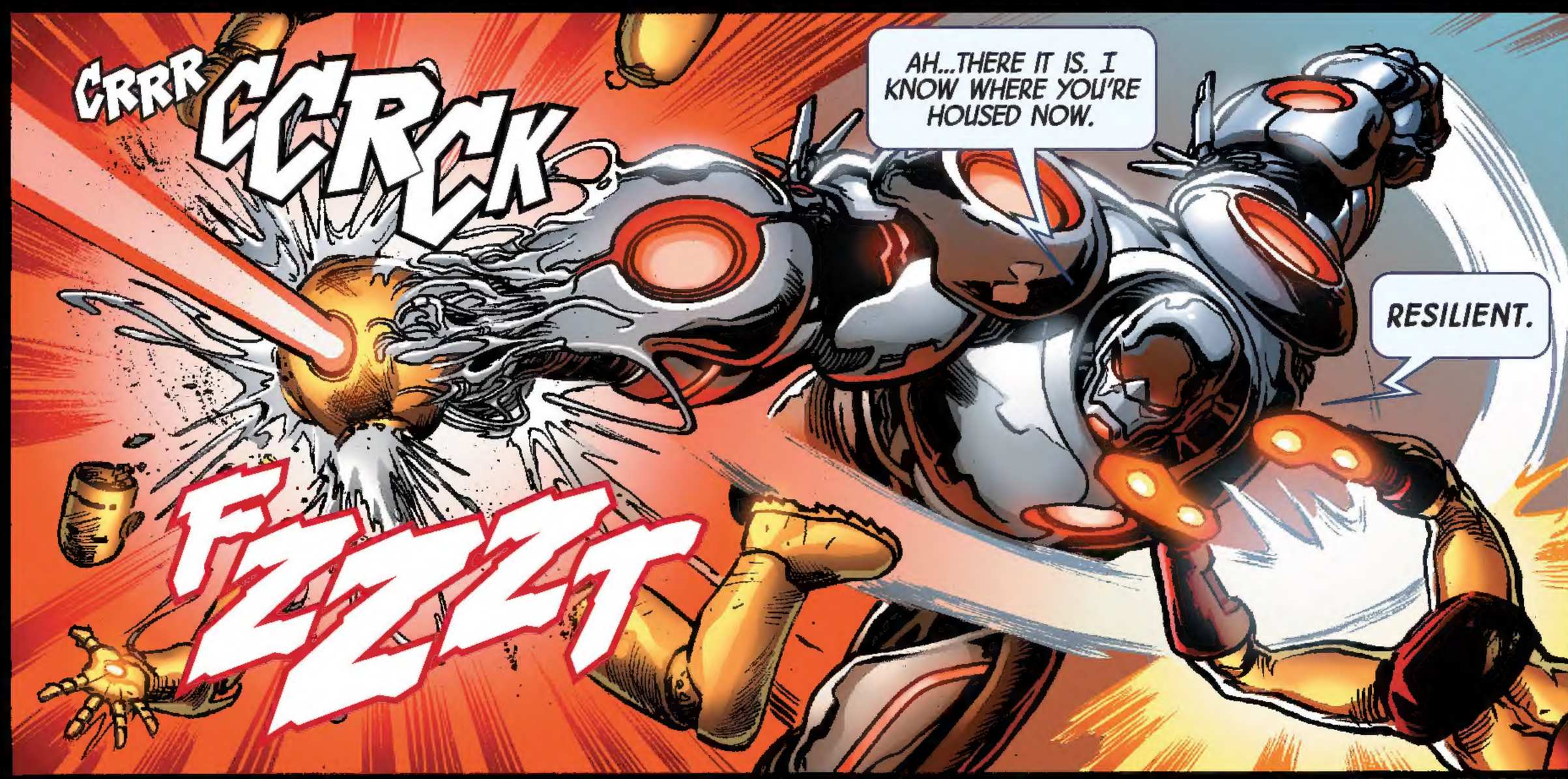

OF COURSE YOU ARE. YOU'RE ME WITH LESS KNOWLEDGE, LESS EXPERIENCE--WITH DOUBTS AND MISPLACED MORALITY HOLDING YOU BACK.
I'M NOT GOING TO HOLD BACK. YOU'RE TOO DANGEROUS. YOU CAN'T CONTINUE TO EXIST LIKE THIS.


YOU WANT TO TAKE OVER MY MIND. YOU WANT TO TAKE OVER MY BODY.
SO I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO KILL ME.
AND THAT MAKES YOU WEAK.

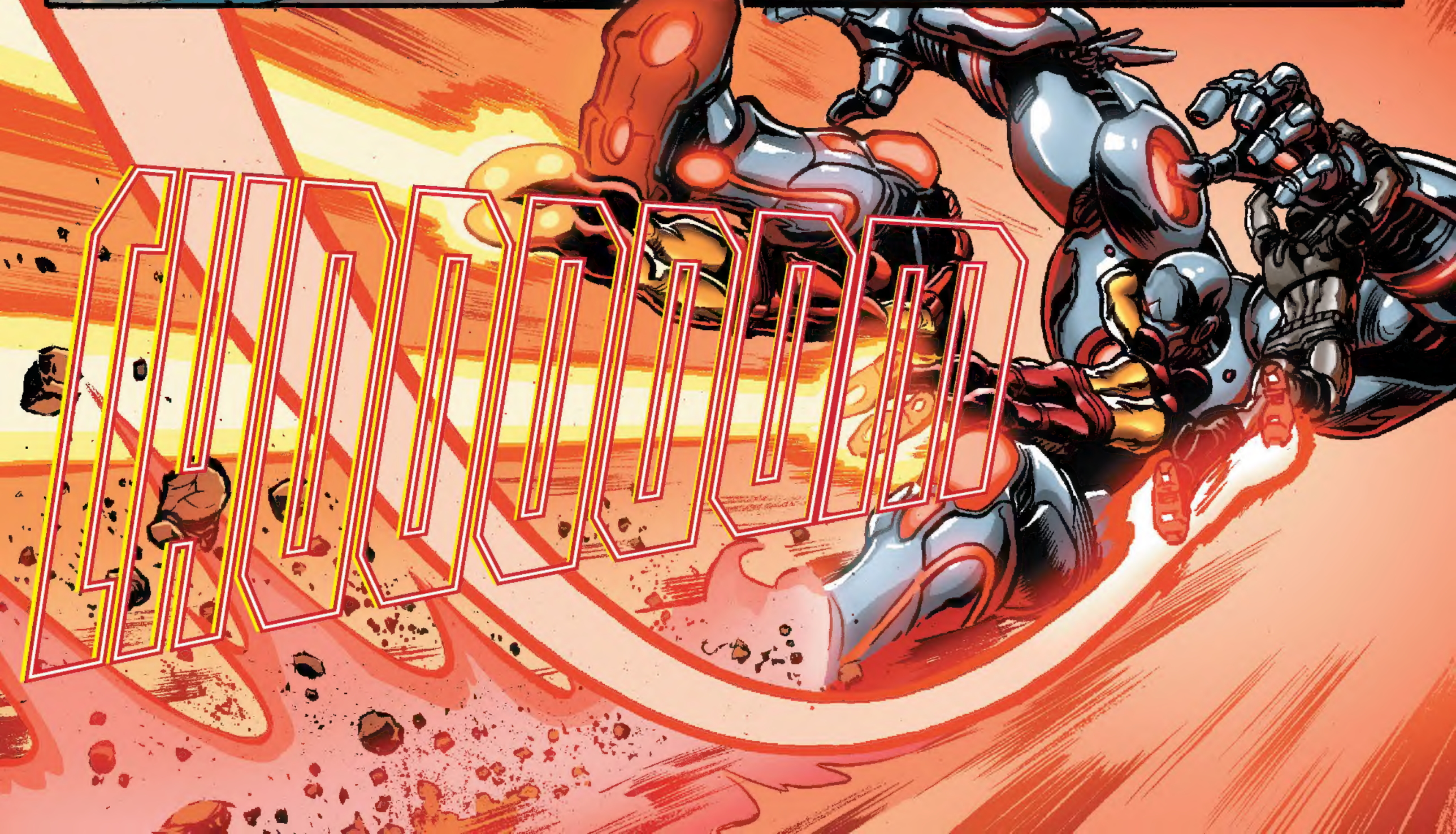

BECAUSE, BELIEVE ME. I INTEND TO KILL YOU.

I MADE YOU.
ALL OF YOU.

FWASH
I CAN UNMAKE YOU!
CHOOM
CRCK
LET ME IN.
I WANT TO KNOW YOUR SECRETS.

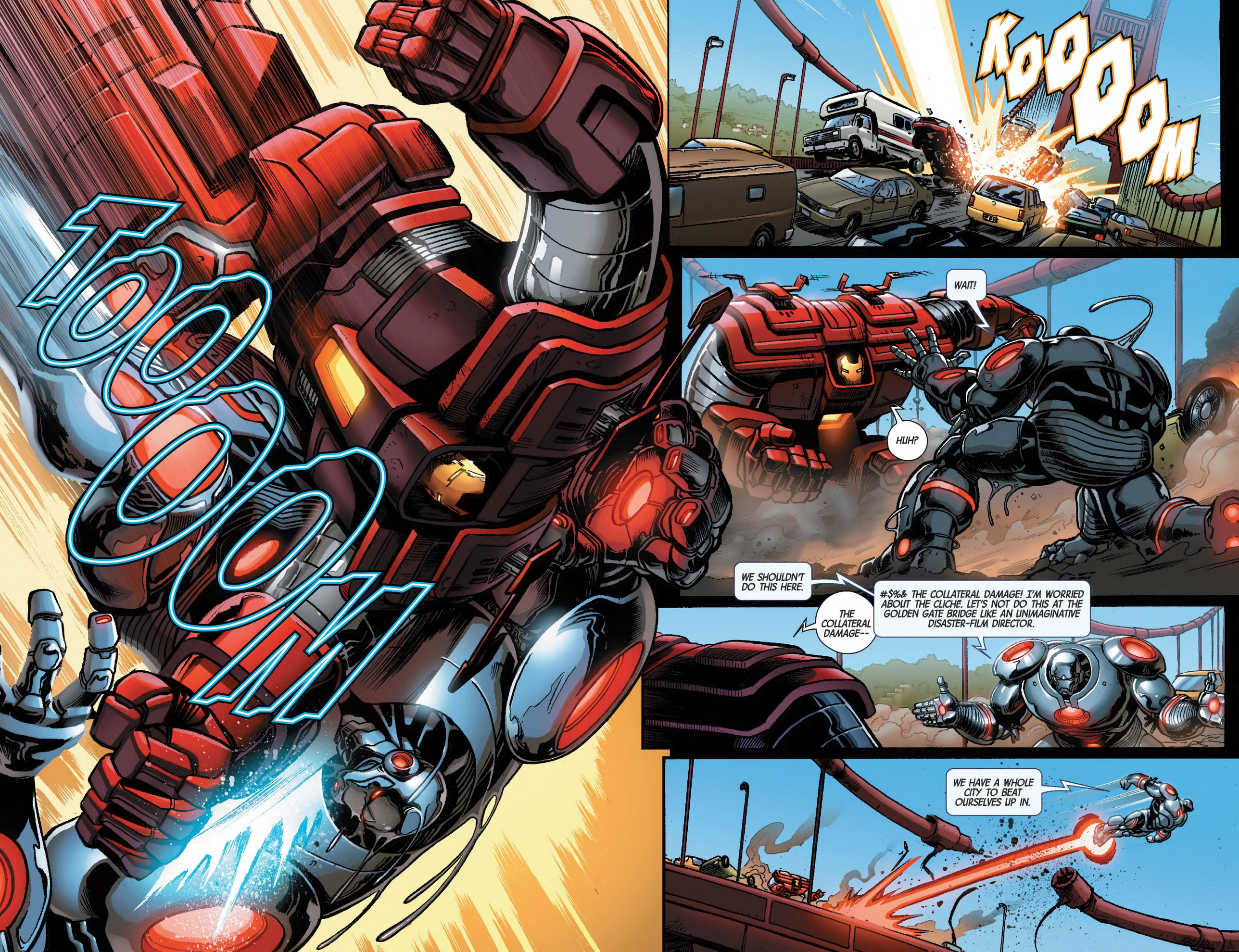

CRRR
CCRCK
AH...THERE IT IS. I KNOW WHERE YOU'RE HOUSED NOW.
RESILIENT.
FZZZT

KOOM
CHOOM
CHOOOM


CRUUUUUUUM

GRRR
NAARGH!
REALLY, TONY?
RUNNING AWAY?

I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY. I'M TAKING THE FIGHT AWAY FROM MY ISLAND.
CLOOM
I WANT TO TEAR YOU APART AND HUMILIATE YOU WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT HAVING ALL MY STUFF BROKEN.
HMMM.
CHOOM
CHOOM
CHOOM
CHOOM
WELL, THAT'S JUST VINDICTIVE.
TONY.
AH... CRAP.


KOOOOM
WAIT!
HUH?
WE SHOULDN'T DO THIS HERE.
THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE--
#$%& THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE! I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE CLICHE. LET'S NOT DO THIS AT THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE LIKE AN UNIMAGINATIVE DISASTER-FILM DIRECTOR.
WE HAVE A WHOLE CITY TO BEAT OURSELVES UP IN.

NO, TONY.
PEPPER?
YOU NEED TO STOP NOW.
THIS IS INSANITY.

YOU BUILT PEPPER A NEW SUIT?
RRRNCH
I'M THE ONLY TONY STARK THAT GETS TO BUILD HER A SUIT!
CRRNCH

I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU. I JUST WANT TO GET YOU HELP.

PLEASE, TONY. DON'T FIGHT IT.

HNNNG!

JUST FALL.

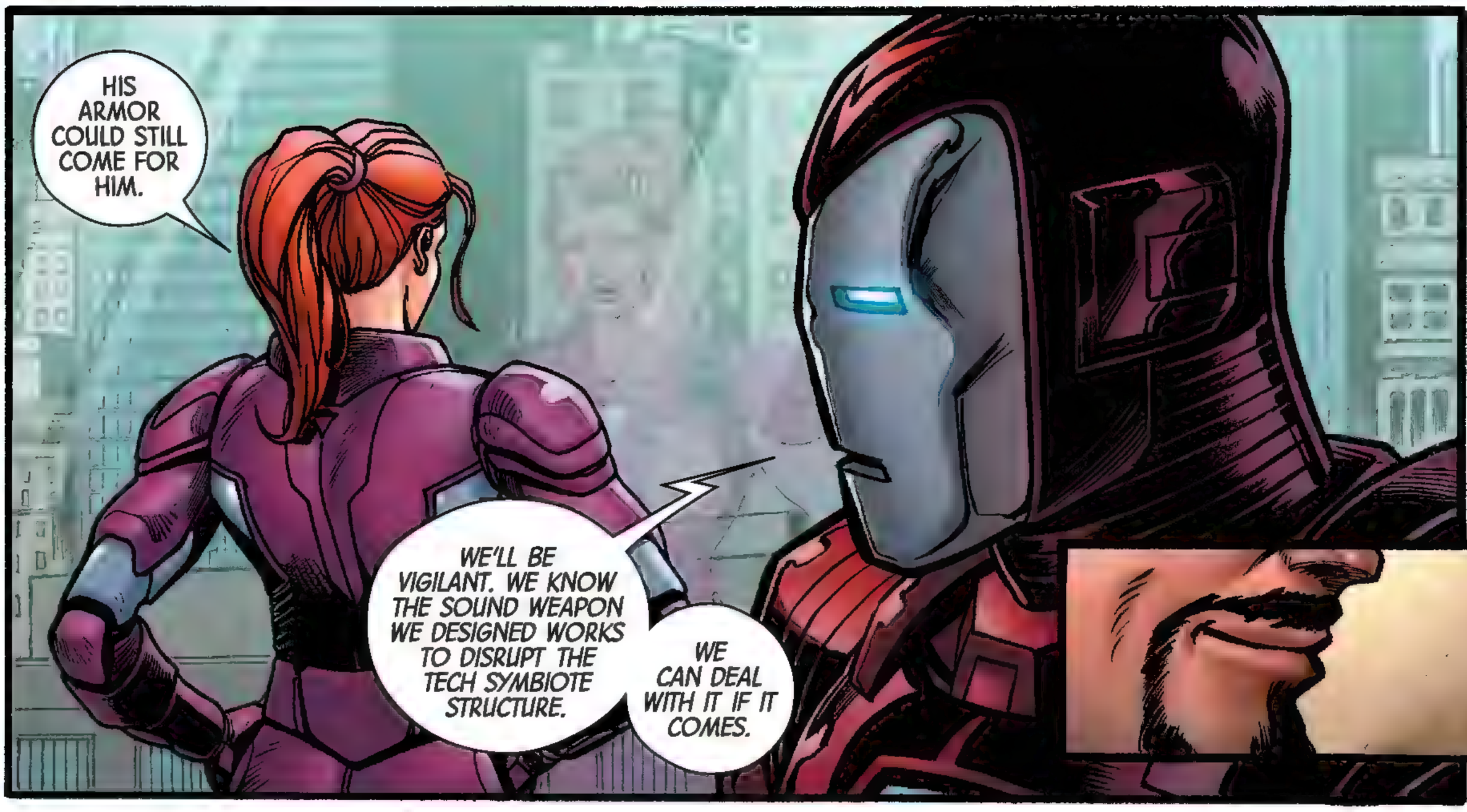
"JUST.

"FALL."

RESILIENT HEADQUARTERS.
LATER.
REVERTING HIM WON'T BE SIMPLE. BUT WE HAVE PEOPLE WE CAN CONTACT.

I THINK THE WORLD IS BIG ENOUGH FOR TWO TONYS, IF YOU'RE HAPPY TO STAY IN A MACHINE.
I'M ABSOLUTELY NOT, BUT I'M SURE I CAN FIND A SOLUTION.

BESIDES, I'VE BEEN IN HIS MIND AND SEEN WHAT HE'S DONE TO OUR BODY. I CAN'T REALLY SAY MORE WITH JAMIE HERE BUT, TRUST ME, I DON'T REALLY WANT IT ANYMORE.
THAT BAD?
THERE ISN'T ENOUGH BLEACH IN THE WORLD.

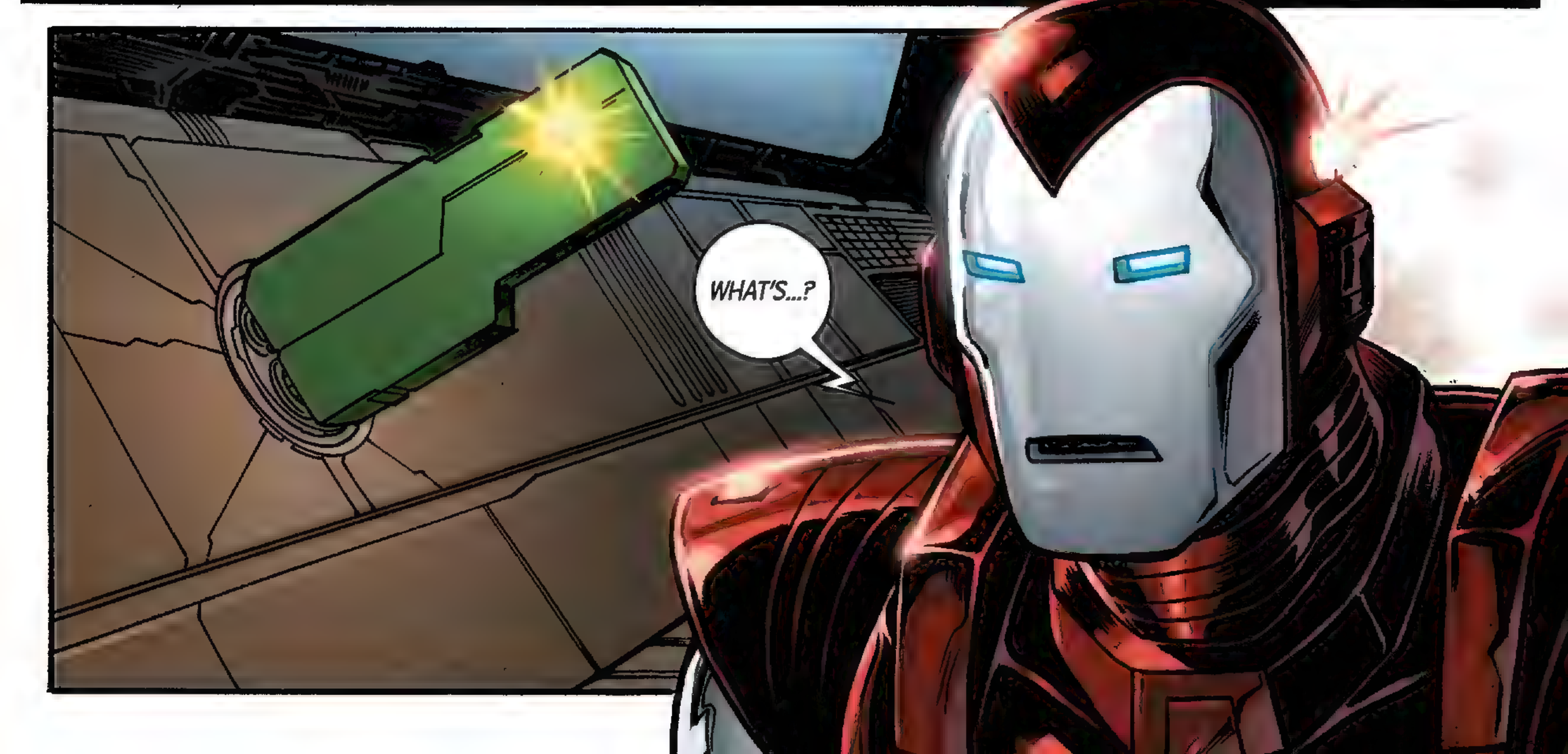

HIS ARMOR COULD STILL COME FOR HIM.
WE'LL BE VIGILANT. WE KNOW THE SOUND WEAPON WE DESIGNED WORKS TO DISRUPT THE TECH SYMBIOTE STRUCTURE.
WE CAN DEAL WITH IT IF IT COMES.

WHAT WAS THAT?
WHAT?
THAT LITTLE SLY SMILE?

YOU WEREN'T REALLY SUPPOSED TO SEE THAT.
SIT DOWN.

I'M SITTING.
TK

SHOW ME YOUR HANDS!


WHAT'S...?

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

CRCK

WHAT'S THAT?

RESILIENT HAS VERY GOOD FIREWALLS. I COULDN'T GET THROUGH THEM FROM OUTSIDE.

BUT FROM HERE...

IT'S A VIRUS! SHUT DOWN THE SYSTEM!

YEAH. IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT.

RIGHT NOW, IT'S MOVING THROUGH THE RESILIENT SYSTEM. IT'S MOVING THROUGH ALL THE BACKUP SERVERS, IT'S SPREADING TO THE CLOUD.

IT'S FINDING EVERY TRACE OF YOU.

CZZZT

AND...

STOP THE PROGRAM!

I... HNNG... CAN'T.

LET HIM GO!

YOU WON'T KILL ME!

IF THIS IS WHAT WE CAN BECOME--

HRK...

--MAYBE THE WORLD IS BETTER OFF WITHOUT A TONY STARK.

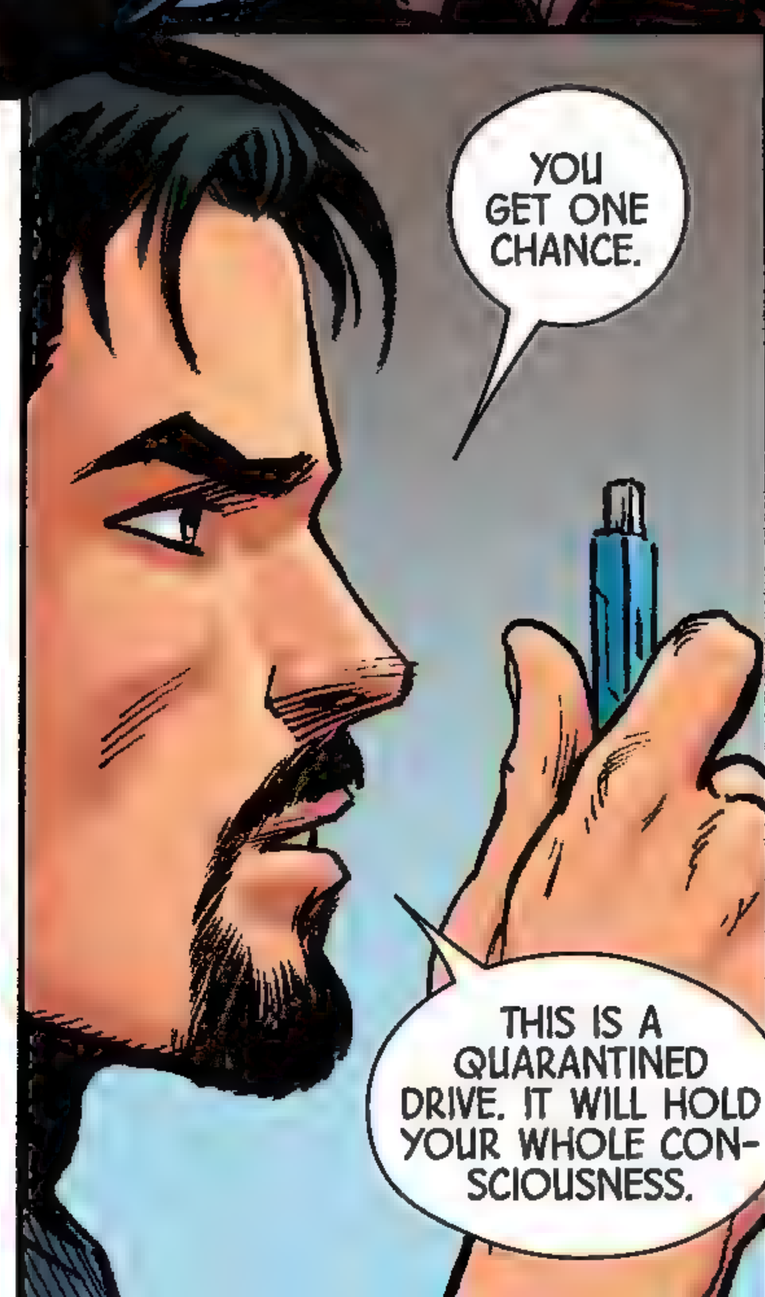
NO!

GANG

PEPPER?

THAT... PERVERSION ISN'T ME. YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HE COULD DO TO THE WORLD!

I WON'T LET YOU KILL EACH OTHER.



YOU DON'T HAVE LONG.
YOU BAST--
FZZZT
IT'S YOUR ONLY CHOICE. BE SMART.
CNK
DAMN YOU.
DEET
THERE WE GO.

YOU WERE A WHOLE LOT OF TROUBLE.

YOU THINK I'M JUST GOING TO LET YOU WALK AWAY?
WHILE I'M HOLDING MYSELF HOSTAGE, YES.
COME ON, MONSTER BOY. WE'RE LEAVING.

JAMIE? YOU DON'T HAVE TO...
YES, MISS POTTS. I DO...
SOMEONE HAS TO STOP THIS $#@%!

CRACK
HNAARGH!

YOU STUPID--

KRRRRRRRU
NO!

HE WAS YOU AND--
IT WAS A PROGRAM, NOT A PERSON.

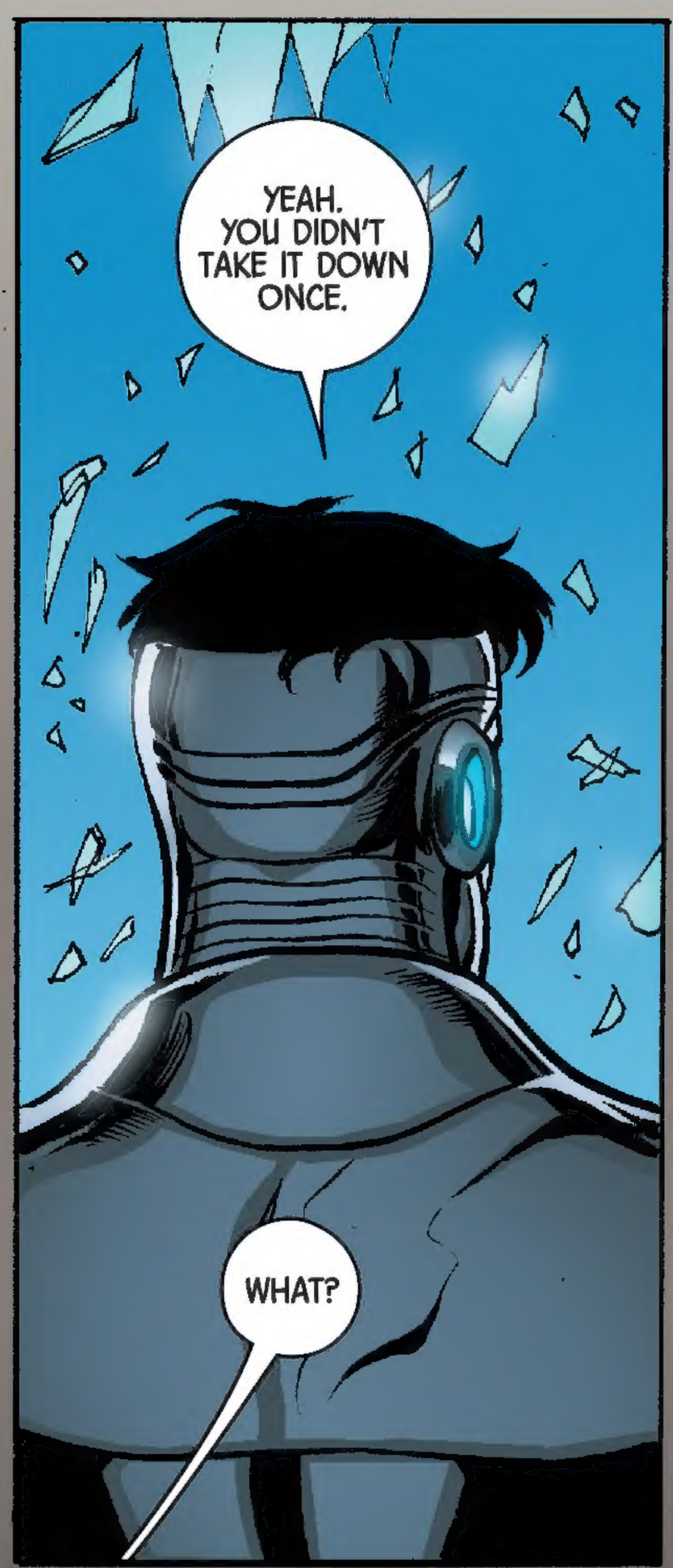
YOU MURDERED HIM. YOU--

YOU DIDN'T KILL YOUR MOTHER.

WHAT?
KATRINA CARLSON IS AT NEW YORK COUNTY GENERAL.
SHE HAD A SEVERE HEAD INJURY. SHE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS LAST NIGHT.

YOU KEPT THIS FROM HIM?
I DIDN'T THINK SHE WAS GOING TO SURVIVE. I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO HAVE TO WATCH HER DIE TWICE.
THAT WASN'T YOUR DECISION TO MAKE, TONY!
YOU DON'T GET TO DECIDE WHAT'S BEST FOR EVERYONE! YOU--

JAMIE.
SHE'S...
SO, YEAH. I'LL LEAVE YOU TO IT.
NO.
YOU DON'T GET TO JUST WALK AWAY.
I TOOK YOUR ARMOR DOWN ONCE, TONY.
I CAN DO IT AGAIN!
CRSSH
EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE


YEAH. YOU DIDN'T TAKE IT DOWN ONCE.
WHAT?

YES, IT'S A SYNTHETIC SYMBIOTE, AND SYMBIOTES ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO SOUND WAVES.
BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK FOR A SECOND THAT I'D BUILD MY MOST ADVANCED ARMOR AND NOT SHIELD IT FROM THE INCREDIBLE THREAT THAT IS "LOUD NOISES"?

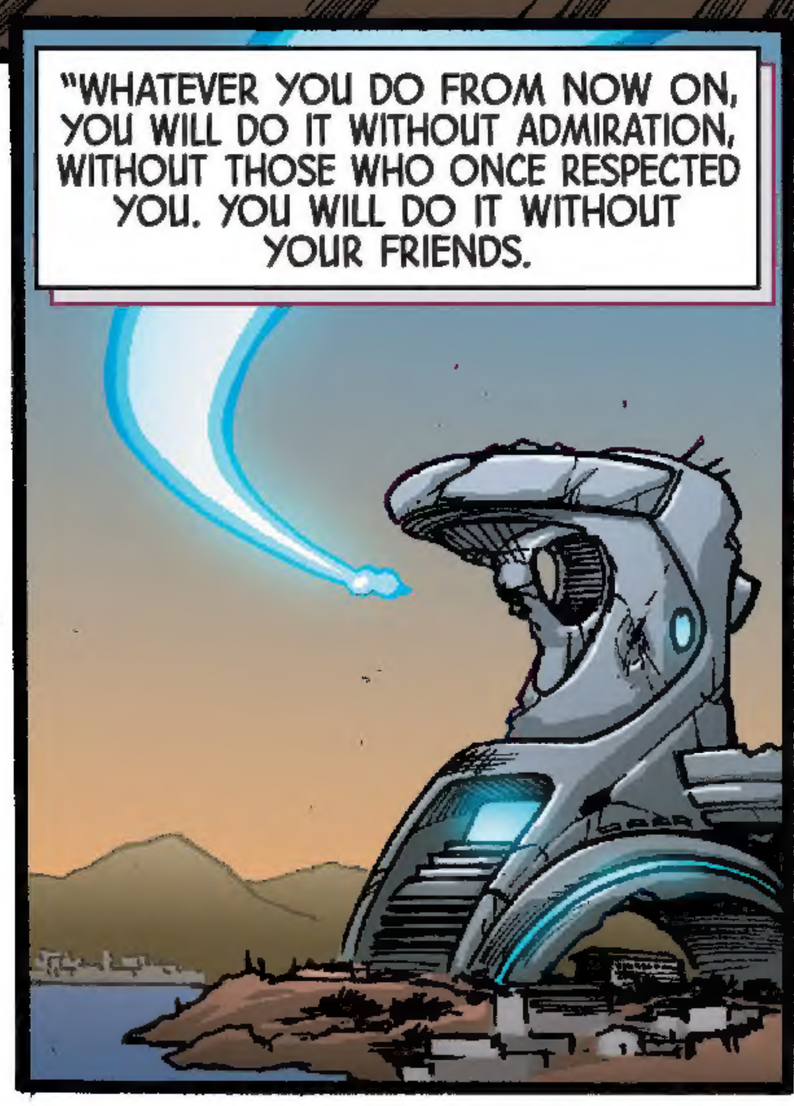
I USED YOU, PEPPER. I USED YOU TO GET INSIDE RESILIENT.
I USED YOU FOR YOUR COMPASSION, AND MISPLACED FAITH.

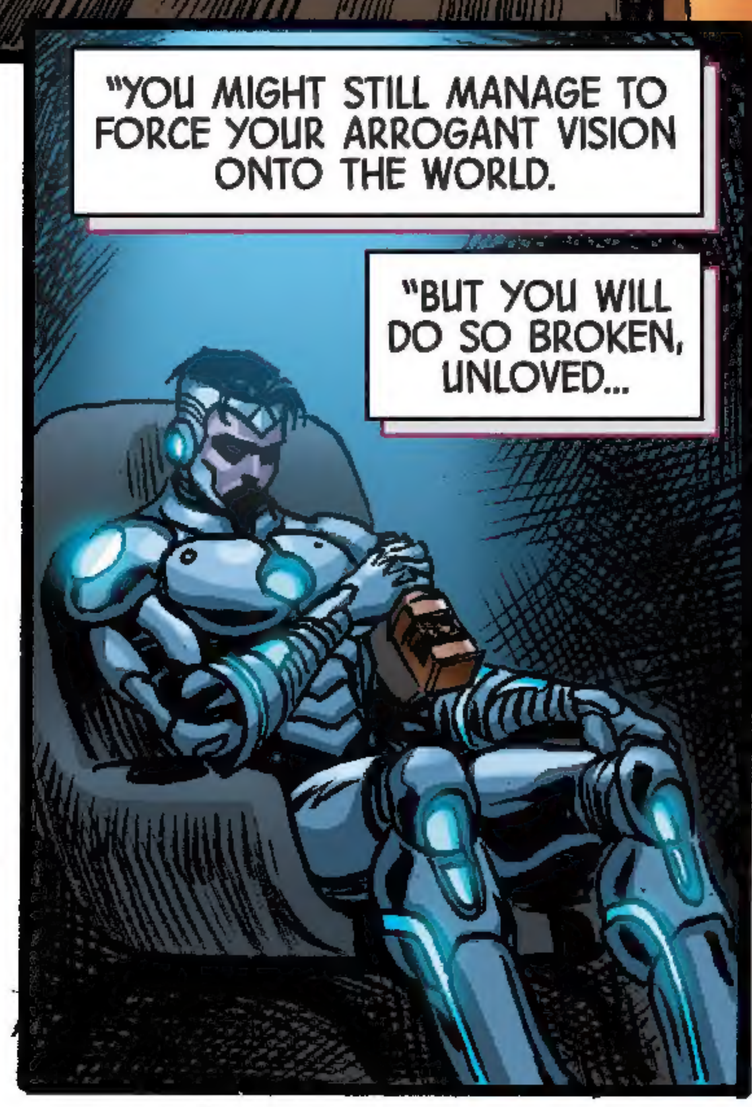
I'M SO SORRY.
THIS IS EVERYTHING YOU ONCE ASKED ME TO GUARD AGAINST.
ALL OF YOUR WORST FEARS REALIZED.
I FAILED YOU.

YOU DIDN'T *FAIL* ME. I AM SO MUCH MORE THAN WHAT I WAS.
I HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT YOU'RE GONE.
AND IF I CAN'T SAVE YOU, THEN I HAVE TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM WHAT YOU'VE BECOME.
I BOUGHT ONE OF THE LARGEST MEDIA COMPANIES ON EARTH FROM UNDER YOU. I'LL USE IT TO SINK YOUR DRUG, EXTREMIS, AND I WILL SHOW THE WORLD THE MONSTER YOU'VE BECOME.

"THEY WILL ALL KNOW YOUR IMPERFECTIONS, TONY. YOU WON'T BE THEIR MESSIAH ANYMORE.

"YOUR ZEALOTS, SO BLIND TO THE TRUTH. I WILL OPEN THEIR EYES.





ZONE